



State of Montana Data Center News

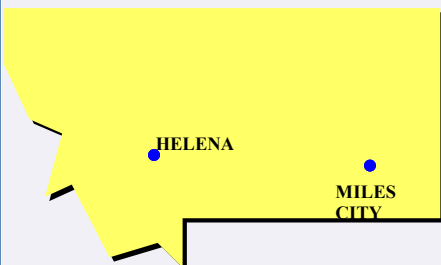
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Volume 1

Where are the State of Montana Data Centers located?

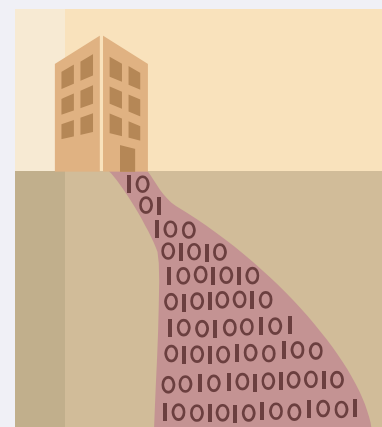
information provided by Mike Boyer



Security, economic development responsibilities and cost were the major factors for choosing the location of the eastern Data Center. In addition, obligations under Montana law and functional attributes of the facility had to be considered. Miles City, Forsyth and Billings were all considered. Openness was very important in the evaluation process and public meetings were held in all three communities. The public had the opportunity to provide comment via letter writing, email or a phone message form. Each identified site was visited twice and local leaders were involved in the visits. An assessment tool was

developed to provide a fair evaluation method for each potential site. Using this tool each site was awarded points with Miles City being the top scorer for the eastern Montana Data Center. Miles City presented the best combination of key characteristics, especially security and economic development potential at an acceptable cost.

The Helena site selection was less involved. The only open space in the Capitol area was already marked for other purposes. The Montana Department of Transportation campus had several site options and the selection was made based on utility availability, the potential for sharing waste heat with MDT and minimizing site preparation costs.



Miles City Selection Facts

✓ Security

- Access to more than one power grid
- Less urbanized community making it less of a target for terrorist activity
- Site "part of" a Department of Corrections facility and will benefit from the security infrastructure already present

✓ Cost Factors

- Site is state owned land and carries no project cost
- While recurring costs are estimated higher than other sites it is expected that increased economic development will narrow the cost difference

✓ Economic development responsibilities:

- Under 2-17-512 (c) MCA, the Department of Administration is responsible for making IT decisions that also promote economic development. While all the communities would benefit economically from being selected, the impact is most pronounced in a smaller community, such as Miles City.

Project Directives

What are Project Directives? Project Directives are formal decisions that have been made by the project's Core Team. It is a formal way of documenting and issuing notice on the decision.

Who issues them? Directives are issued by the Project Director, once the item has been brought up before the project Core Team and a decision has been handed down by the team.

Why is it important to issue Directives? Directives are important because they formally lay out the direction that is to be taken by a team, how it is to be done, who is to do the work and finally where the funds to pay for the work are coming from.

Directives Issued to Date

0709-01 Project Billable Hours

0909-01 Fiber Installation

0911-01 Network Design

0110-01 SMDC EOC Direction

1209-04 SMDC Helena Mitigation

1209-05 SMDC Helena ITSD Goal Date

1209-06 Bresnan Fiber Plant Build

0110-02 SMDC Storage Array

Copies of these Directives are available on the project Share Point Site @ [Project Appointments and Directives](#)

"The Helena SMDC is a capstone project for the State of Montana. I'm proud of the intellectual capital being invested in making the data centers and the services we house there the best they can be."

*~ Dick Clark, State CIO,
ITSD Administrator*

SMDC Project Teams

FEATURED TEAMS

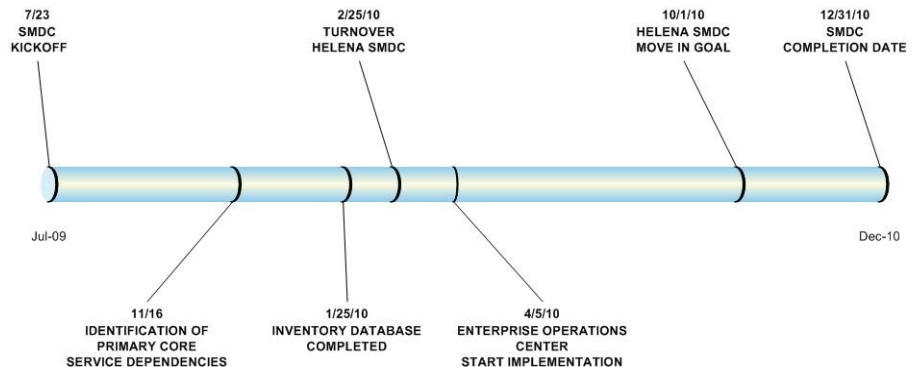
InfoSec Team: The primary function of the Information Security (InfoSec) project team is to provide comprehensive information security policies and procedures that are in accordance with NIST, the National Institute of Standards and Technology. These policies and procedures will not only be tested upon transition to the new SMDC, but will consistently be updated as the need arises. The goal is to have current, proactive policies and procedures that will meet or exceed the Information Security needs for ITSD.

Inventory Team: The primary function of the Inventory Team is to provide the inventory of the existing logical and physical components and interdependencies that make up the Mitchell Building data center to the planning team and maintain inventory for duration of project.

Timeline

State of Montana Data Centers Project Timeline

Update: 01/27/10



Meet the SMDC Steering Committee Members



FEATURED MEMBER

John Daugherty

CIO

Montana Department of Corrections

John Daugherty is currently the Chief Information Officer of the Montana Department of Corrections. John is responsible for overseeing the management, implementation, and operations of information systems and infrastructure that directly supports the supervision of over 13,000 offenders in the state of Montana.

John serves as a steering committee member on the Montana Integrated Justice Information System Broker project. He is also the longest standing executive board member of the Corrections Technology Association and one of Montana's representatives on the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Rocky Mountain Technology Assessment committee. Currently John is the vice-chair, and one of three founding members, of the National Consortium of Offender Management Systems which is responsible for the creation and management of the nation's only shared source offender management system. Between 2005 and 2007 John served as chair of the Montana Information Technology Managers Council.

John has been with the Department of Corrections since 1998 and is not yet eligible for Parole.